Thank you, Chairman

MCKEON.

The President has not made the case

for our military conflict in Libya. He

has told us who we are against, Qadhafi,

but he has not told us who we

are for.

Secretary Gates has told us that we

know very little about the opposition;

we know very little about the rebels.

We do not know their geopolitical view

to their neighbors; we do not know

their geopolitical view to us. We do not

know their commitment to domestic

diversity. Are we going to have atrocities?

We do not know their ideology,

we do not know their preferred form of

government, and we also do not know

their commitment to nonproliferation

of weapons of mass destruction, an

issue that is important in Libya.

The President has used United Nations

approval of civil protection to

wage all-out war on Qadhafi without

congressional approval or American

support. U.S. Admiral Locklear, in

charge of the NATO operations against

Libya, recently stated that ground

troops would be needed to provide stability

in Libya once the Qadhafi regime

falls. Yesterday, White House Press

Secretary Jay Carney said he believes

that the President has the support of

the majority of the Members of Congress.

I do not think so.

I offered a resolution, House Resolution

58, that would voice this body’s

disapproval of the President’s actions

in Libya. Seventy-five Members have

co-sponsored this resolution. I believe

it’s important for this body’s voice to

be heard.

The President has not provided us

any information as to why we are

doing this, what a post-Qadhafi regime

will look like in Libya, and what will

be our involvement. He is committing

us to an extended military action; and

for Congress to be relevant, our voices

need to be heard.

I support the Speaker’s resolution,

and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor

House Concurrent Resolution 58.